

LOXOSTEGE STICTICALIS L. IN WESTMORLAND.—I took a specimen of *Loxostege sticticalis* L. in my mercury vapour lamp trap here in New Hutton on the night of 28/29.viii.1970. I know of no previous record of this species from Westmorland but it was recorded in some numbers from the Penrith area (just in Cumberland) in 1955 (*Ent. Rec.*, 67: 273). At the time of capture, there was no evidence of any other migratory species, and indeed, migrant moths have generally been very scarce in this district this year.—Dr NEVILLE L. BIRKETT, Kendal Wood, New Hutton, near Kendal. 3.xii.1970.

MONMOUTHSHIRE LEPIDOPTERA RECORDS IN 1970. — Perhaps the most interesting of several unexpected species of moths I have encountered in Monmouthshire during the last two years was *Parascotia fuliginaria* L. a single specimen appearing in my garden m.v. trap at Usk on 3rd August 1970. I am not aware of any earlier Monmouthshire occurrences of this moth and should welcome information on any previous Welsh records. Last year on 31st July *Euphyia cuculata* Hufn. appeared in my trap at Usk.

In a small fen in southern Monmouthshire I took this year a specimen of *Leucania straminea* Treits. on 10th July and later that night a *Gastropacha quercifolia* L. came to m.v. light. This is the only time I have met the Lappet in this county. At the same spot on 11th July 1969 a male *Spilosoma urticae* Esp. came to m.v.

*Hadena bombycina* Hufn. which usually is rare in Monmouthshire turned up in a number of localities in 1970.

1970 has proved a good year for *Celastrina argiolus* L. in Monmouthshire as in other parts of the country. Its appearance here was widespread and when the second brood had emerged in July and August it was not unusual to see six or more at a time flying round the hollies and other evergreens in my garden. 1958 was Gwent's last big Holly Blue year but the numbers this time exceeded those of twelve years ago.

It is gratifying to be able to report the presence this year of *Limenitis camilla* L. in the north of Monmouthshire. Hitherto in this country I had only seen it in the Tintern district where I observed it from 1952 to 1962. During that decade it steadily increased in numbers and extended its territory considerably but it then suddenly died out and although I have searched the area most years since then it has not reappeared.

Migrants in general have been far fewer in Monmouthshire this year than in 1969. There were very few *Vanessa atlanta* L. and *Vanessa cardui* L. The moths *Plusia gamma* L., *Agrotis ipsilon* Hufn., and particularly *Peridroma porphyrea* Schiff. were all comparatively infrequent. I saw only a few *Nomophila noctuella* Schiff. and but one *Udea ferrugalis* Hübn. However I did see a single *Colias croceus* Fourc. on 28th September and one *Macroglossum stellatarum* L. which appeared was the first I have seen here for more than thirteen years.

It may be of interest to record here that I know of three colonies of *Zygaena lonicerae transferens* Verity. in Monmouthshire, one being in the vicinity of Usk.

Finally my m.v. trap at Usk yielded a fresh male *Orthosia incerta* Hufn. on the rather surprising date of 23rd October 1970. — Dr. G. A. NEIL HORTON. Plas Newydd, Usk, Monmouthshire. 21.xi.1970.